

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as now presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 15-21, and 23 have been canceled. Claims 1-14, and 24-50 have been previously canceled. Claim 22 has been amended. Claim 22 is active in the application.

Applicants acknowledge that Claim 22 contains allowable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants have re-written Claim 22 so as to generally include all of the features of the base claim and any intervening claims. Therefore, Applicants believe that amended Claim 22 is allowable.

The above changes to the claims are self-evident from the original disclosure; thus, no new matter has been introduced, and no new issues have been raised.

Appl. No. 10/723,735
Amdt. dated May 11, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 6, 2004

Amendment A, continued

In view of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the claim is definite and in condition for allowance. An early and favorable action to that effect is therefore respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

Date of Deposit: *May 11, 2004*

I hereby certify that this paper and/or fee is being deposited
with the United States Postal Service via first class mail
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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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